

Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the Committees on Energy and Commerce, Ways and Means, and the Judiciary be discharged from further consideration of H.R. 18 and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. BOURDEAUX). Under guidelines consistently issued by successive Speakers, as recorded in section 956 of the House Rules and Manual, the Chair is constrained not to entertain the request unless it has been cleared by the bipartisan floor and committee leaderships.

RIISING INFLATION HURTS US ALL

(Mrs. BICE of Oklahoma asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. BICE of Oklahoma. Madam Speaker, I rise today to address the ongoing economic crisis our Nation is facing.

Study after study has found that the Democrats' budget proposals attack every part of our economy, from gas prices to groceries to middle-class workers and small businesses. Americans are struggling to make a living.

Gas prices have skyrocketed to \$3.15 per gallon, the highest price for a gallon of gasoline since 2014 and a 42 percent increase from last year. As we continue to fall back into pre-pandemic routines, families hoping to travel this summer can't afford the rising prices for fuel.

I am also deeply concerned by the rising costs of everyday necessities. Over the past year, consumer prices have shot up 5.4 percent, reflecting the biggest increase since 2008, which was the last economic crisis the United States faced.

The bottom line is that hardworking American families cannot withstand the negative impacts of rising inflation. As long as this administration continues to spend trillions of dollars on failed policies, Americans will be left to foot the bill. I will continue to fight to ensure Oklahoma families and businesses do not suffer more in this economic crisis.

AMERICAN IDEAL WITHSTANDS TEST OF TIME

(Ms. FOXX asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. FOXX. Madam Speaker, recently, I received an impassioned letter from Elizabeth Bradley, a young woman from Bessemer City, North Carolina, about the American ideal.

In her letter, she writes: "The American ideal is the revolutionary thought that it is not by government, nor wealth, nor any human intervention that people have rights, but by the divine power of God."

Ms. Bradley is exactly right, Madam Speaker.

The American ideal has withstood the test of time because of those who

put their faith in God's plan rather than their own.

Madam Speaker, let us never forget that we are one Nation under God, and the freedoms we proudly espouse are a gift that He has bestowed upon us.

□ 1915

HONORING DON PARRISH

(Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor the storied career of Mr. Don Parrish as he celebrates his retirement as Senior Director of Regulatory Affairs at the American Farm Bureau Federation.

Don is a champion and friend of the U.S. agriculture industry through and through.

Don's legacy spans a variety of topics, but namely, he is renowned for his incredible work on the Clean Water Act and the waters of the U.S.

Don's role as an integral leader on this topic lead to his placement as chair of the Waters Advisory Coalition and to be named as a "Top 5 Player" on WOTUS in Politico.

Anyone who knows Don knows his deep love for both his work and his family, whom he frequently brags about.

The U.S. agriculture industry is better today because of Don's fierce dedication and advocacy.

Madam Speaker, I thank Don for his partnership and for the outstanding work he has done to improve the livelihood of America's farmers and ranchers.

I wish Don a fulfilling retirement. He has earned every bit of it.

HELPING PEOPLE MAINTAIN THEIR PHONE NUMBERS IS A GOOD STEP TOWARD NORMALCY

(Mr. LAMALFA asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. LAMALFA. Madam Speaker, I am pleased to see that this week we are taking up H.R. 678, the PHONE Act.

This bipartisan piece of legislation is common sense and helps real people after natural disasters.

This bill would place a moratorium on phone companies reassigning people's landline phone numbers when their house is destroyed by a natural disaster, such as forest fires, which I am having so many of in my district.

I have heard countless stories of people whose houses are burned down in wildfires that continue to get charged for their landline phone number, or their number is reassigned to a new customer.

This bill would help alleviate some stress and give people one less thing they have to deal with.

I am proud to cosponsor a bill that is stepping up and providing a solution to

help out wildfire victims and other natural disaster victims.

The goal of recovery is to bring back a sense of normalcy, and helping people maintain their phone number is a good step.

STANDING WITH THE PEOPLE OF CUBA

(Mr. WALTZ asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. WALTZ. Madam Speaker, I rise today to stand with the people of Cuba. I rise today to stand with these brave people who are risking everything, their lives, their families, their livelihoods.

Standing for freedom in Cuba isn't an academic exercise. They not only put their lives on the line, they put their entire family's lives on the line. And as they do this they are reading from the Constitution of the United States of America, they are reading from the Declaration of Independence, they are waving the American flag. They are not waving flags of Europe or other countries. They are waving the American flag, the international symbol of freedom.

Madam Speaker, socialism does not work, is not working, has never worked anywhere around the world. The only place in the world where the Cuban people are not succeeding is in Cuba. We must stand with them. We will stand with them. And the Cuban people will be free.

FREEDOM FOR CUBA

(Mr. DIAZ-BALART asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. DIAZ-BALART. Madam Speaker, the people of Cuba are standing up for freedom, and they are suffering horrific consequences for it. They are getting murdered in the streets by the regime. They are getting killed in the streets by the regime.

And what they are asking for are just a couple of things. And what I am pleading for right now with the President of the United States is for some solidarity. And, yes, he made a couple statements, but where is his leadership?

What the Cuban people need right now is access to the internet that has been cut off by the Cuban regime. The Cuban people are not asking for remittances, they are not asking for aspirin, they are asking for freedom.

This President ran saying that he was going to renew a new era of American diplomacy. Why is he not rallying the world? Why is he not speaking about what is going on on the island of Cuba? Why is he not talking to the democracies, making sure that everybody understands that it is an illegitimate terrorist, murderous regime in Cuba, and the United States stands with the people and is going to make sure that the world stands with the people of Cuba, as well?